



# Press Release

## District of Columbia National Guard



Major General Errol R. Schwartz  
Commanding General

Lt. Col. Kevin McAndrews  
Public Affairs Officer

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **DC Army Guard Band will make history at inaugural ball**

**WASHINGTON D.C.** – For the first time in history, a National Guard band will play for a U.S. president during an inaugural ball. The 257<sup>th</sup> Army Band of the D.C. National Guard has been invited to play at the Southern Inaugural Ball at the DC National Guard Armory Tuesday evening where the newly sworn-in President Obama is expected to attend.

The 257<sup>th</sup>, known as *The Band of the Nation's Capital*, was selected by the Armed Forces Inaugural Committee which selects parade participants as well as performers for the various balls around the Capital.

“We are very proud of our band,” said Maj. Gen. Errol Schwartz, Commanding General of the DC National Guard Joint Force Headquarters. “I think the crowd will be pleasantly surprised by how good they really are. They have worked hard for this moment and will really shine while playing for our new commander-in-chief.”

While the band will make history by playing at the ball, it's nothing new for the commander, Chief Warrant Officer Sheila Klotz. She is a former member of the U.S. Air Force Band and has performed at five inaugural balls.

“The band recognizes this unprecedented honor and will represent the National Guard, the DC National Guard and the United States Army with pride and professionalism,” Klotz said.

The band will be practicing on Monday for the event and will be available for the media interviews. For more information, contact Capt. Christian Mitchell at 571-214-0432 or Lt. Col. Mike Milord at 202-685-9862, [mike.milord1@us.army.mil](mailto:mike.milord1@us.army.mil).